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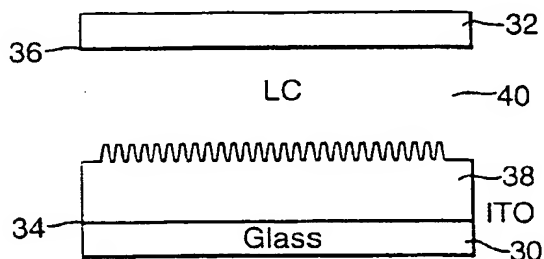
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(54) Title: LIQUID CRYSTAL ALIGNMENT LAYER



(57) **Abstract:** This invention relates to a photopolymer mixture capable of use for a liquid crystal alignment layer and to an alignment layer formed from such a photopolymer mixture. The mixture comprises at least two polymerisable materials which are blended together in proportion so as to give a predetermined, preferably low, surface energy. A low surface energy, e.g. less than  $4 \times 10^{-2}$  N/m can result in an alignment layer which imparts a particular orientation to liquid crystal molecules without requiring any post cure treatments. The polymerisable materials may be monomers, oligomers or diluents that form long chain molecules when cured and the mixture may contain additives to lower the overall surface energy.

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